

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the application in view of this preliminary amendment. The present application is a divisional of Application No. 09/641,498 (the "parent application"). In the parent application, the Examiner issued a restriction requirement, contending that the application as filed claimed four patentably distinct species, namely

- I. Abrading (Claims 1-21, 31-38, 40-45, and 47);
- II. Etching (Claims 22-25 and 46);
- III. Ablating (Claims 26-28); and
- IV. Embossing (Claims 29, 30 and 48).

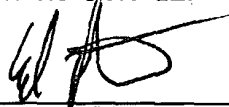
In response, applicants elected Species I and canceled claims 22-30. The present divisional application is being filed to pursue the non-elected species.

The amendment to page 5 of the specification parallels an amendment entered in the parent application. The Examiner in the parent application agreed that this amendment does not add new matter, but merely highlights what is already self-evident, namely that the BEOL processing noted in the specification, in which the interposing substrate assembly 106 is cut to separate individual packaged devices, must take place (if at all) after the operations shown of Figures 3-5.

The Abstract as originally filed in the parent application exceeded the Office's 150-word maximum length. The present amendment replaces the original Abstract with a shorter Abstract complying with the Office's rules.

The undersigned respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance and requests prompt notice of the same. If the Examiner has any questions or matters that can be expediently handled by telephone, he or she is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (206) 264-3848.

Respectfully submitted,
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